

We Claim:

1. A distributed system for establishing a voice communication session, the voice communication session being established by executing a series of functions, said distributed system comprising:
 - a client device constituting an originating point of the voice communication session;
 - a plurality of servers capable to be placed in a data communicative relationship with said client device, each server being capable of establishing a data exchange transaction with the client device to execute a certain function of the communication session, each server being characterized in that it establishes a data exchange transaction with said client device in a manner autonomous from a data exchange transaction between said client device and a different server.
2. A distributed system for establishing a voice communication session as defined in claim 1, wherein each server includes a computing apparatus.
3. A distributed system for establishing a voice communication session as defined in claim 2, wherein said computing apparatus includes a processor in a data communicative relationship with a memory, said memory including a program element executed by said processor to implement an event of the communication session.
4. A private branch exchange network to permit establishment of internal and external voice communication sessions, each voice communication session being established by executing

a series of functions, said private branch exchange network including:

- 5 - a plurality of servers in a data communicative relationship, each server capable of interacting autonomously from other servers with telephone instruments connected to said network to execute a certain function of a voice communication session;
- 10 - said plurality of servers including a PSTN access server to connect said network and the PSTN for establishment of external voice communication sessions.

5. A private branch exchange network to permit establishment of internal and external voice communication sessions, said private branch exchange network including:

- 15 - a plurality of nodes capable of communicating with one another by exchange of data packets to establish and conduct a voice communication session;
- 20 - said network including at least one node capable of forming a gateway with a PSTN to permit establishment of external voice communication sessions.

6. A private branch exchange as defined in claim 6, wherein said data packets are IP data packets.

25 7. A method for establishing a voice communication session, the voice communication session being established by executing a series of functions, said method comprising:

- providing a client device at which the communication session originates;
- 30 - providing a plurality of servers, each server being capable to interact with said client device to execute a certain function of the communication session; and

- establishing a plurality of autonomous data exchange transactions between said client device and said servers to execute a series of functions permitting establishment of a voice communication session.

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8. A method as defined in claim 7, wherein the establishment of a data exchange transaction between said client device and a server comprises the exchange of data packets between said client device and the server.

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9. A method as defined in claim 8, wherein said data packets are IP data packets.

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